

NEWS and NOTES

NATIONAL • STATE • COUNTY

ALAMEDA

Herrick Memorial Hospital of Berkeley has been **approved for training of residents** in pathology by the American Medical Association's Council of Medical Education and Hospitals and the American Board of Pathology, according to a recent announcement by the hospital. This is the fourth resident training program given official approval, the hospital announced, the others being surgery, obstetrics and gynecology, and psychiatry.

LOS ANGELES

Dr. Lewis E. Scharf last month was appointed acting health officer in charge of the Glendale district office of the Los Angeles County Health Department. Dr. Scharf takes the place of **Dr. Myron W. Husband**, who resigned to accept appointment as health officer of Humboldt County.

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Cooperating with the Los Angeles County Medical Association, the Los Angeles County Tuberculosis and Health Association is now conducting a six-month demonstration **program to encourage use of the chest x-ray** by physicians. The program, which opened April 18, has two purposes: the finding of unsuspected cases of tuberculosis, heart disease and other chest abnormalities, and the education of physicians in the routine use of the chest x-ray.

X-ray films are made only when the patient is referred to the unit on one of the prescription forms which were furnished each member of the Medical Association by the tuberculosis association. Patients are not accepted if they are being treated for chest symptoms for which an x-ray would normally be ordered, since the program calls for examination of those for whom a film would not be required in the routine course of diagnosis. Each film is read separately by a qualified radiologist and a chest specialist and the findings are mailed to the physician making the referral.

The free service is **limited to members of the Medical Association** or those qualified for membership. The 70 mm. portable minifilm unit is housed in Medical Association quarters for the demonstration period.

PLUMAS

Dr. Paul A. Lum, formerly in general practice in Contra Costa County, has been appointed county physician of Plumas County and superintendent of the county hospital at Quincy.

SACRAMENTO

Dr. Louis Jones of Roseville has been appointed by Governor Warren to the State Board of Medical Examiners, succeeding **Dr. Richard O. Bullis**, Los Angeles, resigned. Dr. Jones was appointed for the term ending January 15, 1953, and **Dr. Frederick N. Scatena** of Sacramento, incumbent secretary of the board, was reappointed for a similar term.

SAN FRANCISCO

Grants-in-aid to support **research in the field of heart disease** were awarded recently by the Insurance Medical Research Fund to four physicians at the University of California Medical School, two at Stanford University School of

Medicine and one at Mt. Zion Hospital, San Francisco. The awards were as follows:

Dr. David M. Greenberg, University of California Medical School, for research on metabolic changes in the kidneys and arteries associated with the development of hypertension and arteriosclerosis, \$15,750.

Dr. John H. Lawrence and **Dr. William J. Kerr**, University of California Medical School, for research on vascular physiology and disease, with special reference to total body water, \$13,650.

Dr. I. L. Shaikoff, University of California Medical School, for research on the metabolic characteristics of arterial tissues and the pathogenesis of arteriosclerosis, \$8,400.

Dr. J. M. Crimson, Stanford University Medical School, for research on capillary blood flow, \$12,600.

Dr. Emile Holman, Stanford University Medical School, for research on experimental valvular disease, cardiac anastomoses and hemodynamics, \$5,250.

Dr. Meyer Friedman, Mount Zion Hospital, for research on the distribution and fate of digitalis glucosides, \$16,800.

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The University of California Medical School, University Extension, has announced two additional **postgraduate courses for the summer months**, one a five-day course in endocrinology, the other a six-day course in the medical aspects of nuclear energy. The former will be held June 20 through June 24 and the latter August 29 through September 3.

Further information may be had from **Stacy R. Mettler**, M.D., head of postgraduate instruction, Medical Extension, University of California Medical Center, San Francisco 22.

GENERAL

A new film, titled "**Cancer: The Problem of Early Diagnosis**," which has received the approval of the American Medical Association's Committee on Medical Motion Pictures, has been made available to the medical profession through more than 50 state and regional distributing points. Through the efforts of its co-sponsors, the American Cancer Society and the National Cancer Institute of the United States Public Health Service, prints for single showings may be borrowed from state cancer society offices, state health departments, and four regional offices of Association Films located in New York City, Chicago, Dallas, and San Francisco.

The film, designed for general practitioners, is based on the premise that if cancer were diagnosed early and effectively treated the death rate might be reduced by almost 50 per cent.

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Two California medical schools were among recipients of **grants-in-aid of research** announced recently by the American Heart Association. One grant went to the University of California School of Medicine for studies of the effect of drugs on cardiac metabolism, under the supervision of **Dr. C. H. Thienes**; the other to Stanford University School of Medicine for study of edema in congestive heart failure and the effects of diuretic agents, under the supervision of **Dr. David A. Ryland**.

Dr. Lawrence Kolb, medical director of California state hospitals, last month was appointed to serve as acting director of the State Department of Mental Hygiene to fill the vacancy caused when Mrs. Dora Shaw Heffner resigned the post because of ill health. Dr. Kolb was appointed to serve until a committee composed of the deans of California's five medical schools, which was appointed by Governor Warren to find "the most competent administrator available" for the post, finishes its survey and brings in its recommendation.

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The first meeting of the newly formed **International Academy of Proctology** will be held in Atlantic City, N. J., June 10, 1949. The scientific portion of the program will consist of the presentation of papers and motion picture films of interest to all physicians as well as to those specializing in proctology. Further information and a copy of the program may be obtained by writing to Dr. Alfred J. Cantor, International Academy of Proctology, 43-55 Kissena Blvd., Flushing, N. Y.

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Establishment of a **National Institute of Mental Health** to intensify efforts toward the prevention, control and treatment of mental illness was announced recently by Surgeon General Leonard A. Scheele of the U. S. Public Health Service. Research will be carried on outside of the Public Health Service through research grants and fellowships awarded to non-Federal research institutions and individual scientists. Training of personnel and the establishment of community mental health facilities also will be assisted through grants-in-aid.

Despite the nation-wide shortage of professional personnel, mental health programs have been initiated in 27 states and territories and have been expanded in 24 others since passage of the Mental Health Act.

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At a recent convention in San Francisco of the **California Society of Anesthesiologists**, which was formed a year ago as a merger of similar organizations in Northern and Southern California, Dr. Forrest E. Leffingwell of San Marino was elected president, succeeding Dr. Charles F. McCuskey of Los Angeles. Dr. Fenimore Davis of Oakland succeeded Dr. Thorne Hopkins of Fresno as vice-president, and Dr. Bruce M. Anderson of Oakland was reelected secretary.

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The Fifth National Conference of County Medical Society Officers (Grass Roots Conference) will be held in Atlantic City, Sunday, June 5. This is the day prior to the opening of the A.M.A. House of Delegates. Morning and evening sessions will be held. The morning session will be devoted to specific county medical society problems, with panel discussions on: (1) The problem of emergency calls; (2) Indigent medical care plans; (3) The National Education Campaign. The last hour of the morning session will be given over to questions on the National Education Campaign, with Mr. Clem Whitaker and Miss Leone Baxter, campaign

directors, present to provide the answers. The evening session, which will be open to all physicians and their wives, will feature talks by Mr. Whitaker and the Honorable John L. McClellan, U. S. Senator from Arkansas.

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Examinations of candidates for the position of **Chief of the Bureau of Hospitals** in the California Department of Public Health will be held June 25, 1949, by the State Personnel Board. The deadline for filing of applications to take the examination is June 4. Examinations for the position, which carries with it a salary range of \$644 to \$782 a month, will be held in Sacramento, San Francisco, Los Angeles and in "such other places in California and other states as the numbers of candidates warrant and conditions permit."

Scheduled for June 21, 1949, are examinations of applicants for the position of **Assistant Medical Director**, Industrial Accident Commission, for which the salary range is \$530 to \$644 a month. The closing date for the filing of applications is May 31, and the places of examination are the same as those designated for the candidates for Chief of the Bureau of Hospitals.

Full description of the requirements for both positions may be had from the State Personnel Board in Sacramento, San Francisco and Los Angeles, or at any local Department of Employment office.

Discussion of **compulsory plans for medical care** and for disability compensation will highlight the fifth annual meeting of the Conference of Presidents and officers of State Medical Associations to be held at Atlantic City on Sunday afternoon, June 5, the day preceding the opening of the A.M.A. general sessions. The meeting will be open to all physicians.

Cecil Palmer, English publisher, author, and journalist, will tell of the impact of socialized medicine on the British doctor and his patients. Palmer, now completing a tour of America, has been a brilliant spokesman for the British Society for Individual Freedom. An American viewpoint of the British health system will be given by W. Alan Richardson, editor of *Medical Economics*, who recently went to England for a first-hand study of all phases of the program.

With compulsory disability compensation programs operating in three states, and Washington and New York the latest to pass such laws, the conference presents two speakers on this vital question. Edward H. O'Connor, managing director of the Insurance Economics Society of America, will discuss the legislations, and Dr. Bert S. Thomas, medical director of the California program, will tell of the medical implications of cash sickness compensation acts.

The A.M.A. relationship to the state societies will be reviewed by Dr. George F. Lull, secretary of the A.M.A. and The Problems Facing the State Association at the Crossroads will be the subject of a talk by Dr. Clarence Northcutt, president of the Oklahoma State Medical Association. Plans are pending for the presentation of views on national health legislation by a member of Congress.

